

REMARKS

The Office Action dated October 27, 2003 has been read and carefully considered and the present amendment submitted to clarify the claim language to better define the present invention.

Claims 1-4 and 6-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention, namely, that the claims were suggested to recite the mounting of the roller on the large diameter portion of the spindle whereas the drawings were considered by the Examiner to show the roller mounted on the reduced diameter portion of the spindle.

Claims 1-4 and 6-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ross, U.S. Patent 1,975,296 in view of Duran, U.S. Patent 4,655,657.

Accordingly, claim 1 has now been amended to clear up the Section 112 rejection based upon the issue with respect to the "large diameter vs. reduced diameter" portions of the spindle so as to make it clear the portion of the spindle where the roller is intended to be located.

As now recited, therefore, it is better defined that there are basically three diameters that are concerned with the spindle, that is, there is a largest diameter portion of the spindle that is located toward the proximal end of the spindle that is adjacent the mounting 12. That largest diameter portion is stepped down or reduced by means of a collar or shoulder to a large diameter portion 3 of the spindle and the roller is located on the large diameter portion and abutting against the collar or shoulder. Continuing further along the spindle away from the mounting 12, there is a reduced diameter portion identified by the number 3a and which is the distal end of the spindle and that reduced diameter portion facilitates sliding the roller on to the spindle since the reduced diameter portion allows the roller to be more easily fitted onto the free or distal end of the spindle to thereafter be progressed therealong to become seated along the large diameter portion and abutting the shoulder or collar where the diameter abruptly increases the large diameter portion to the largest diameter portion to create the collar. As noted in the specification, page 4, line 8 *et seq*, the reduced diameter

portion is at the end of the spindle and identified as 3a to enable the roller to be readily pushed onto and over the length of the spindle.

Accordingly, with that explanation and the amended claim language, it should be then be clear as to the location of the various diameters of the spindle and that the roller is held along the large diameter portion of the spindle, not the reduced diameter portion that is only used to align the roller and make it easier to fit the spindle onto the reduced diameter end of the spindle and pushed along the spindle to the large diameter portion up to the point where the roller abuts against the shoulder or collar that creates the break between the large diameter portion and the largest diameter portion.

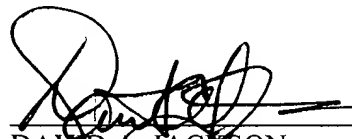
With the clarification to claim 1, it should then be clear as to the inapplicability of the combination of the Ross and Duran patents as discussed in the prior amendment where Duran is far afield and concerns the retaining of a bolt joining two panels together and the spindle of Duran fits into a hollowed out interior of the bolt and the spindle moves to displace the ball detents outwardly to interfit into cavities to secure the bolt from becoming loose.

Again, therefore, Duran does not consider the detachably affixing of a roller on a spindle where the spindle has a reduced diameter extension that aligns the roller and also guides the roller smoothly around the outer circumference of the spindle.

It is submitted that Ross fails to disclose the present invention and Duran cannot be used in any foreseeable combination with Ross to provide the missing elements of Ross.

Accordingly, it is submitted that the claims in the present application are in allowable form and an allowance of the present application is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David A. Jackson', is written over a horizontal line.

DAVID A. JACKSON
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 26,742

KLAUBER & JACKSON
411 Hackensack Avenue
Hackensack, NJ 07601
(201) 487-5800